
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2917

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government & Audit Review (originally sponsored by Representatives Upthegrove, Warnick, Wallace, Hasegawa, Roberts, and Liias)

READ FIRST TIME 02/12/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to voter registration and informational activities
2 at institutions of higher education; amending RCW 29A.08.105 and
3 29A.08.260; adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW; and creating a
4 new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 Institutions of higher education shall:

9 (1) In accordance with RCW 29A.08.310, put in place a prompt and
10 link to the secretary of state's voter registration web site;

11 (2) Make voter registration forms available in places of prominence
12 within the premises of each campus;

13 (3) In consultation with the secretary of state and the student
14 government association, or its equivalent, develop and implement
15 policies regarding distribution of voter registration forms to students
16 at the beginning of each term and in campus housing facilities; and

17 (4) Collaborate with the student government association, or its
18 equivalent, to conduct nonpartisan voter information activities, which

1 may include voter registration, candidate debates, and issue forums.
2 Responsibility for proposing such activities shall reside with the
3 student government association, or its equivalent.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.08.105 and 2004 c 267 s 105 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) In compliance with the Help America Vote Act (P.L. 107-252),
7 the centralized statewide voter registration list maintained by the
8 secretary of state is the official list of eligible voters for all
9 elections.

10 (2) In all counties, the county auditor shall be the chief
11 registrar of voters for every precinct within the county. The auditor
12 may appoint registration assistants to assist in registering persons
13 residing in the county. Each registration assistant holds office at
14 the pleasure of the county auditor and must be a registered voter.

15 (3) The county auditor shall ensure that mail-in voter registration
16 application forms are readily available to the public at locations to
17 include but not limited to the elections office, and all common
18 schools, fire stations, institutions of higher education as defined in
19 RCW 28B.10.016, and public libraries.

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.08.260 and 2004 c 267 s 118 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 The county auditor shall distribute forms by which a person may
23 register to vote by mail and transfer any previous registration in this
24 state. The county auditor shall keep a supply of voter registration
25 forms in his or her office at all times for political parties and
26 others interested in assisting in voter registration, and shall make
27 every effort to make these forms generally available to the public.
28 The county auditor shall provide voter registration forms to city and
29 town clerks, state offices, schools, fire stations, institutions of
30 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, and any other locations
31 considered appropriate by the auditor or secretary of state for
32 extending registration opportunities to all areas of the county. After
33 the initial distribution of voter registration forms to a given
34 location, a representative designated by the official in charge of that
35 location shall notify the county auditor of the need for additional
36 voter registration supplies.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
2 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
3 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
4 void.

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